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are involved in the present dispute. We are not going to fight for tariffs, or for markets for our exports. In 1791, Mr. Grey argued that, as our imports from Russia exceeded one million sterling, it was not desirable that we should go to war with a country trading with us to that amount. In 1853, Russia exported to this country at least fourteen millions sterling; and that fact affords no proof of the increasing barbarism of Russia, or of any disregard of her own interests as respects the development of her resources. With regard to trade, I can speak with some authority as to the state of things in Lancashire. The Russian trade is not only at an end, but it is made an offence against the law to deal with our customers in Russia. The German-trade is most injuriously affected by the uncertainty which prevails on the continent of Europe. The Levant trade, a very important branch, is almost extinguished in the present state of affairs in Greece, Turkey in Europe, and Syria. All property in trade is diminishing in value, whilst its burdens are increasing. The funds have fallen in value to the amount of about 120 millions sterling, and railway property is quoted at about 80 millions less than was the case a year ago.

POPULARITY OF THE WAR.—I am told indeed that the war is popular, and that it is foolish and eccentric to oppose it. I doubt if the war be very popular in this House. But as to what is, or has been popular, I may ask, what was more popular than the American war? There were persons lately living in Manchester who had seen the recruiting party going through the principal streets of that city, accompanied by the parochial clergy in full canonicals, exhorting the people to enlist to put down the rebels in the American colonies. Where is now the popularity of that disastrous and disgraceful war, and who is the man to defend it?

EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON ENGLAND.—The past events of our history have taught me, that the intervention of this country in European wars is not only unnecessary, but calamitous; that we have rarely come out of such intervention having succeeded in the objects we fought for; that a debt of £800,000,000 sterling has been incurred by the policy which the noble Lord approves, apparently for no other reason than that it dates from the time of William III.; and that, not debt alone has been incurred, but that we have left Europe at least as much in chains as before a single effort was made by us to rescue her from tyranny. I believe if this country, seventy years ago, had adopted the principle of non-intervention in every case where her interests were not directly and obviously assailed, she would have been saved from much of the pauperism and brutal crimes by which our government and people have alike been disgraced. This country might have been a garden, every dwelling might have been of marble, and every person who treads its soil might have been sufficiently educated.

LONDON PEACE SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY.

The report of this Society's anniversary proceedings, May 23, we received too late for any thing more than a brief account, and a few extracts as specimens of their exalted aim and spirit. The President, CHARLES HINDLEY, M. P., opened the meeting with a pertinent and forcible address; the Report, a luminous exposition of what the Society had done during the year, was read by its able and accomplished Secretary, Rev. HENRY RICHARD; and speeches of much pith and point were made on resolu-

tions strikingly appropriate to the times, by Rev. Dr. MASSIE, Rev. WILLIAM BROCK, JOHN BURNET, and M. VEROU, a French Pastor, and by ROBERT CHARLETON and JOSEPH STURGE, two of the three Quaker Deputation to the Czar last winter.

THE REPORT—refers to “the panic dread of a French invasion,” which the Peace Conference at Manchester had, with such triumphant success, entirely dissipated ;—to the similar Conference at Edinburgh in October, which was designed, but failed, to avert the threatened war with Russia ;—to the long and strenuous efforts of the British Cabinet to secure a pacific adjustment ;—to the series of meetings held by distinguished advocates of peace in various parts of the country before the war began ;—to the change of their labors from public meetings to the circulation of peace publications pertinent to the times, in large numbers, at Chobham during the week campaign there, and in a multitude of places through the land. At such places as Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, Birmingham, York, Hull, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, and many others, tracts were distributed in some cases to every elector, and in others to every house. “Some idea may be formed of the extent of these operations, when we say that, since the last annual meeting, more than 900,000 publications have been circulated, many of them pamphlets of a size equal to a considerable volume. In Manchester, 12,000 Children’s Peace Books have been distributed among the Sunday Schools.” Among these publications, were Cobden’s pamphlet or volume, “1793 and 1853,” Bright’s strong speech in the House of Commons on the Russian War, and the Proceedings of the Edinburgh Conference, (20,000,) which was preceded by the distribution in Scotland of more than 200,000 tracts and publications on Peace.

We quote the reasoning of the London Committee. After extensive correspondence, “they came to the conclusion, that, in the excited and inflammable condition of the public mind, public meetings might only serve to exasperate the evil they were anxious to remedy, by affording an opportunity to noisy and violent men to make those appeals to the passions, which unhappily, at such a conjuncture as the present, are much more likely to be listened to than the calmer counsels of reason and justice. But there was another method of enlightening and guiding public opinion, much less open to objection, and, in their judgment, more likely to be effectual in the peculiar, political position of the country. That was by the quiet and diligent circulation of pamphlets, tracts, and other publications, inculcating the true Christian principles of peace, and pointing out from the warnings of history, and our own experience of the past, the fearful calamities which a state of war must inevitably inflict upon the interests of religion, morality, civilization and commerce. This plan was accordingly adopted on a very large scale. By the active aid of the friends of the society throughout the country, this work has been carried on with little expense beyond the cost of the publications.”

We cannot refrain from asking here, when will the friends of peace throughout our own country show the same spontaneous zeal in this cause ? It is deeply needed. God grant that they may not long delay to render it.

RISE OF THE TURCO-RUSSIAN WAR.—The highest political authorities distinctly declare, that to the apprehensions of a rupture between England and France, which seemed the inevitable result of the panic about a French

invasion, we owe in a main degree the Eastern difficulty which has thrown all Europe into a ferment."

So the Society ; and JOHN BURNET, a very shrewd and able man, says in his speech, " The late panic produced the most mischievous results. Did you suppose that Nicholas would ever have thought of the campaign he has now opened, if he had not heard the panic cry of England against France ? Is it to be supposed that he would deliberately and with his eyes open, throw himself into two fires, as he has now done, if he had known that those two fires would burn together ? The panic was the origin of the war, and urged the Emperor of Russia onward in his schemes of aggrandisement. Had he been assured that France and England would have combined, and have sent their fleets under one Admiral to the Baltic, and their armies under one commander to the Danube, he would no more embroil himself as he has done, than he would have clapped his eagle wings, and tried to soar to the sun."

This fact, of great significance and moment, is little understood in our country. Few, indeed, suspect it ; many would hardly deem it credible, and even one of the excellent editors of a very able and widely circulated religious paper, a man who clearly belongs to "the church *militant*," a Cromwellian sort of an ambassador of the Prince of Peace, has gone so far in his ignorance of the matter, as to scout the idea against the strong and repeated avowals of some of the first statesmen in England, familiar with the whole case.

THIS WAR AN ARGUMENT FOR THE PEACE-SYSTEM.—The Committee of the Peace Society feel, that the breaking forth of the present war, so far from discrediting, in the slightest degree, those principles and measures they have advocated, affords the most impressive confirmation that can be conceived of the warnings they have never ceased to utter, as to the consequences that must ensue from a persistent adherence to the opposite system. Can it be doubted, that if the forty years of comparative tranquility that has reigned over Europe, had been employed in organizing peace, instead of preparing for war — if the leading statesmen, to whose care the destinies of the nations were committed, had sought to make some timely provision for such conjectures as the present, instead of leaving them to the inflamed passions and hazardous accidents of the moment — if the great publicists and writers who assume to guide the political opinions of Europe, had used their moral power to bring about some fixed and equitable system of international jurisdiction, instead of exhausting their wit and wisdom to discourage and revile all such ideas — if the Governments of Christendom had honestly endeavored for a reduction of their enormous military establishments by mutual consent — in a word, if earnest efforts had been used to substitute the predominance of moral ideas over brute force in the intercourse of nations — if, above all, Christian men had everywhere been loyal to the manifest design and tendency of their religion, instead of striving by perverse and violent interpretation, to mitigate the meaning, and fritter away the obvious spirit of the great Master's teaching, in order to harmonize it with the demands of the war-system — if this had been done, or, in other words, if the principles and measures of the Peace Society had been adopted and acted upon, instead of being derided and scorned, the terrible prospects of a general war of indefinite duration, would not now have been hanging like a thunder-cloud over the face of Europe, and all men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth.

SOME OF THE RESULTS TO BE EXPECTED FROM THIS WAR.—The calamities consequent on the present war, that are even now not obscurely

looming in the distance, may well appal the minds of reflecting and unimpassioned men. The burden of taxation that it will impose upon the country, and of which what we have recently experienced is but the faintest foretaste, is the very least of these impending evils. It will kindle in the heart of civilized and Christian Europe, the fiercest flames of malignant and vindictive passions; and who shall foretell when their fury may be stayed? It will consign myriads of men in the lustiest vigor of manhood to a bloody and premature grave. It will spread among thousands of domestic circles an untold and unimaginable amount of agony. It will harden and brutalize the character of our people, and indispose them to the mild and merciful voice of religion. It will let loose a deluge of vice and immorality to inundate the nations. It will derange commerce, destroy credit, stop manufactures, arrest the peaceful progress of mankind in all useful and humanizing arts. It will let forth the imprisoned elements of revolution and anarchy which may roll like the desolating lava over the face of Europe. And unless it differs from most wars that have preceded it, it will end by utterly ignoring the original cause of the quarrel, by developing into greater exasperation the evils it was meant to remedy, and by leaving behind it a fatal inheritance of sore remembrances and smouldering animosities, as the sure embers out of which future strife may be kindled.

DUTY OF PEACE MEN.—Meanwhile the duty of the Friends of Peace is sufficiently obvious, though it may be also sufficiently arduous. It is, to abide faithful in their testimony to the truth, whether men will hear or whether they will forbear. This may be no pleasant or holiday task, in the present temper of the times. It may expose them to no little obloquy and misrepresentation. They may have motives and objects laid to their charge, which their innermost souls abhor. They may see the evils they have used their utmost efforts to avert, ascribed to those very efforts. They may find many men of feeble minds and wavering principles, unable to resist the torrent of opinion, fail in the hour of trial, and turn to persecute the faith they once preached. In the face of all this, however, they must not swerve. Feeling that they are acting in harmony with the will of the Father of all, in seeking to establish peace among his children—that one of the express designs of the great redemption, was to gather all mankind into unity—that the sure word of prophecy indicates, in no doubtful or obscure phrase, the absolute triumph of the principles they hold,—they will go forward undaunted, calmly, believing that, however, numerous and formidable may be the forces arrayed in opposition to their views, He that is with them is greater than all they that are against them.

RESOLUTIONS—showing the general spirit and aims of our co-workers in England at the present crisis:—

1. That this meeting regards with unfeigned satisfaction, the subsidence of those feelings of suspicion and distrust towards France, which so lately agitated this country, and cannot but consider the mischievous results that have already flowed from that panic, and the evidence of its utter groundlessness, presented by the cordial alliance existing between the two Governments, as affording a significant warning to the Press and people of this country, how they surrender themselves to unjust suspicions and degrading alarms under the influence of blind and unreasoning prejudice.

2. That this meeting regards with the deepest sorrow and apprehension, the war recently broke out in the East of Europe; and, while gratefully acknowledging the long and strenuous efforts made by Her Majesty's Government to secure a pacific adjustment of the question in dispute, can not but earnestly regret that, instead of appealing to arms, they did not persevere in negotiations, or that the matter was not submitted to the arbitration of some competent and impartial umpire, and thereby the calamities be averted which are now impending over the nations, in prospect of a general

European War, the extent, the duration, and the consequences of which no human eye can foresee.

3. That this meeting cannot but regard the war with Russia as furnishing additional illustration of the evils that have frequently come upon this country from the practice, unhappily too common in our history, of interfering by force of arms in the quarrels of other nations; and is of opinion, that it is the duty and wisdom of the English people to urge upon their Government the adoption of the full principle of non-intervention in their foreign policy.

H O M E I T E M S.

AGENTS.—Besides some Local Agents chosen in different sections of the country to look after our cause in their immediate vicinity, our Committee have re-appointed the Rev. HENRY SNYDER, as Lecturing Agent in Western New York, and the Rev. A. C. HAND, for Wisconsin and adjacent States. We would commend them both to the Christian community, but especially to the friends of Peace in their respective fields of labor, as worthy of much confidence, and trust they will meet a cordial welcome and zealous co-operation.

STIPULATED ARBITRATION.—Our late annual Report spoke somewhat in doubt whether our rulers would fully accede to our request for an Arbitration Clause in the important treaty so long pending between us and England; but we are glad to find in the treaty just ratified with Mexico, and in the Canadian Reciprocity treaty reported for substance in the papers, so much evidence of a growing disposition to adopt the principle for which we plead.

The Mexican Treaty contains this article:—ART. 7. Should there at any future period (which God forbid) occur any disagreement between the two nations which might lead to a rupture of their relations and reciprocal peace, they bind themselves in like manner to procure, by every possible method, the adjustment of every difference; and should they still in this manner not succeed, never will they proceed to a declaration of war without having previously paid attention to what has been set forth in Article Twenty-one of the Treaty of Gaudaloupe for similar cases, which Article as well as the Twenty-second, is here reaffirmed.

The Article here referred to is in these words:—“If unhappily any disagreement should hereafter arise between the governments of the two republics, whether with respect to the interpretation of any stipulation in this treaty, or with respect to any other particular concerning the political or commercial relations of the two nations, the said governments, in the name of those nations, do promise to each other that they will endeavor, in the most sincere and earnest manner, to settle the differences so arising, and to preserve the state of peace and friendship in which the two countries are now placing themselves, using, for this end, mutual representations and pacific negotiations. And if, by these means, they should not be enabled to come to an agreement, a resort shall not, on this account, be had to reprisals, aggression, or hostility of any kind, by the one republic against the other, until the government of that which deems itself aggrieved shall have maturely considered, in the spirit of peace and good neighborship, whether it would not be better that such difference should be settled by the arbitration of commissioners appointed on each side, or by that of a friendly nation. And should such course be proposed by either party, it shall be acceded to by the other, unless deemed by it altogether incompatible with the nature of the difference, or the circumstances of the case.”

The phraseology here is objectionable; but the general idea is clearly that of adjusting, as we propose, all future difficulties by reference in the last re-